



DUNN POND

Gardner

Area = 18 Acres

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DIVISION OF FISHERIES AND GAME
Bureau of Wildlife Research and Management

DUNN POND
Gardner, Worcester County

General Information

Dunn Pond is a small artificial pond constructed by the W. P. A. It is now owned by the city of Gardner. It is easily accessible from Route 101. Area: 18 acres. Maximum depth: 5 feet. No boat livery. No trout water.

Stocking History

Largemouth bass (800; 1952) hornpout (2,120; 1946-50), white perch (2,375; 1946-50), yellow perch (2,900; 1946-50) (90 lbs.; 1954), (1,000; 1955), chain pickerel (174 lbs.; 1954), crappie (750; 1946-47).

Fish and Fishing

Dunn Pond, because of its accessibility, is heavily utilized by fishermen. In 1951 fishing was reported as poor by the local warden. Yellow perch and black crappie were small in size and therefore not too desirable to the fishermen. During 1951 the pond was checked by the biological survey crew and found to be over-populated with panfish.

Management

Due to the unbalanced fish population present in Dunn Pond, it was decided to destroy the existing fish population and start over again with a more suitable combination of fishes. The pond was partially drained in September of 1953 and the remaining water areas were treated with rotenone to destroy the fish. Very few game fish were found to be present; the population consisted almost entirely of stunted panfish.

In the Spring of 1954, adult yellow perch and chain pickerel were stocked in the pond. In September, 1954, the pond was checked and young pickerel were found to be abundant. Brown bullheads were also found, indicating that the reclamation had not completely eliminated all of the fish present. There were no signs of the yellow perch stocked in the spring, therefore yellow perch were stocked again the following spring (1955).

In August, 1955, another spot check of the fish population was made. At this time pickerel from 2" to 13" appeared to be abundant, and young yellow perch and bullheads were present in large numbers.

The fish population in Dunn Pond is now in a healthy state. Growth appears to be rapid, and predators (pickerel) appear to be numerous enough to effectively control the panfish population. Legal sized chain pickerel spawned in the pond should start to enter the catch in 1956. Brown bullheads and yellow perch should also provide some fishing this year.

April, 1956.